

SENATE BILL 476

By Stevens

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section
40-25-129, relative to witnesses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-25-129(c)(1), is amended by deleting the following language:

not immediately required; however, the county shall seek to recover the costs of the advance or reimbursement of witness expenses from a convicted defendant as provided in subdivision (a)(2) or another appropriate provision.

and substituting instead:

not required; however, the county shall seek to recover the costs of the advance or reimbursement of witness expenses from a convicted defendant as provided in subdivision (a)(2) or another appropriate provision should the defendant not be declared indigent.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-25-129, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

(d) This section must be applied liberally to effectuate witnesses for the state being advanced or reimbursed for the cost of all witnesses' expenses allowable under the law in the shortest timeframe possible. This section applies to all cases that fall within the intent of this subsection (d) prior to, or on or after, the effective date of this act.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.